

## ASPECTACULAR FALL

Aeronauts Experience a Drop  
o, Two Thousand Feet

AND WITH BUT SLIGHT INJURY

American Balloon Conqueror Bursts  
at the Height of 4,000 Feet, Precip-  
itating the Aeronauts to the Roof  
of a House in a Berlin Suburb.

Berlin, By Cable.—The international balloon race which started Sunday from the suburb of Schmargendorf, was the occasion of a thrilling accident, a miraculous escape from death. The American balloon conqueror, the only American built craft in the contest, having on board A. Holland Forbes and Augustus Post, less than two minutes after the start burst at an altitude of 4,000 feet. For 2,000 feet it shot down like a bullet, and then the torn silk bag assumed the shape of a parachute, thus checking the rapidity of the descent. Coming close to the earth, however, the basket smashed into the roof of a house, but the two men escaped with but slight bruises.

The race, in which twenty-three balloons participated, representing Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium and Spain, started at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the presence of at least 80,000 spectators. The first balloon sent away was the "America II," under command of James C. McCoy, who was accompanied by Lieutenant Vogtman. The balloon was decorated with the Stars and Stripes and it sailed away to the southeast at a rapid pace, the aeronauts waving their hats.

### Dramatic Occasion.

A representative of each of the other nations followed the American balloon in succession at intervals of two minutes, the national hymn of the respective countries ringing forth as the ropes were cast loose.

The second batch of eight balloons was led by Forbes in the Conqueror, which reached a high altitude in an incredibly short period, the basket waving violently. Then almost instantly a cry of horror arose from the crowd who saw the silk collapse and shouted: "The balloon is ripping."

The thousands who had gathered here stood for a moment petrified, some turned away fainting, as they saw the balloon falling with lightning rapidity. At the same time, covers of sand and appurtenances of the balloon shot downward with great rapidity and then daylight was seen through the envelope, great ragged edges of the silk showing on either side.

"They are killed," went in a hushed whisper through the crowd, but shortly the remainder of the envelope appeared to take, first, a triangular shape and then was transformed into a sort of parachute at the top of the net and the progress of the wrecked balloon was considerably arrested. It came down slower and slower, meanwhile being swept by the wind, far to the southeast, and finally disappeared from view behind a block of houses. The suspense among the crowds was terrible. But a few minutes later a telephone message was received from Fribenau, which announced that the men had landed and had not been seriously injured. The other balloons were sent up, after a brief delay, without further accident.

### Terrorizing Negroes.

Montgomery, Ala., Special.—A special from Tuscaloosa, Ala., says: A negro Baptist church and lodge hall located at Spring Hill, Ala., were burned Friday night by unknown persons. A band of horsemen alleged to have been organized with the intention of driving the negroes out of the community, are said to have set fire to the church and hall.

### To Increase Bank Examinations.

Washington, Special.—Comptroller of the Currency Murray has decided to increase the number of national bank examinations, in many cases from twice to three or four times a year. It is not his purpose, he says, to examine all national banks four or even three times a year, but the new rule will be made to apply to national banks that have in the past shown a disposition to violate or evade any provisions of the national banking laws or the regulations prescribed by the Comptroller of the Currency.

## RIOTERS ARE FOILED

Abortive Attempt to Lynch at  
Spartanburg, S. C.

MILITIA PROTECTED PRISONER

Infuriated Mill Operatives Make De-  
termined Effort to Lynch Negro  
Who Assaults Young Lady—Depu-  
ties and Officers Exchange Shots  
and Several Are Wounded.

Spartanburg, S. C., Special.—In the heart of Spartanburg with its 20,000 population, a mob of infuriated citizens, at times numbering a thousand or more, fought Saturday and Sunday night with the military and civil authorities for the possession of John Irby, a negro who is alleged to have attempted to ravish Miss Lillie Dempsey earlier in the day while the young woman was on her way here from Saxon Mill village, three miles away. Four persons were wounded, one of them seriously, and John Sparks, a restaurant keeper, was arrested and held without bail on the charge of shooting Sheriff Nichols, who was slightly wounded in the exchange of shots between the mob and the authorities who were protecting the prisoner.

Beginning about noon the crowd, sullen and bent on vengeance on the negro, roamed about the court house square, approaching at times the very gates of the high wall enclosing the jail. Late at night the situation became alarming. The crowd was augmented by 500 people from Greenville. There was some shooting in the street and the mob moved into the public square.

The first shot came from a window of the jail and it was followed by others from the same quarter. An answering shot was fired from the crowd. This broke a window in the jail and slightly wounded Sheriff Nichols. Sparks was accused of the shooting and immediately taken into custody. His attorneys offered \$1,000 bail but this was refused.

### Girl Identifies Negro.

Irby's arrest was effected shortly after the commission of his crime and close to the scene of his attack. He was captured by mill operatives, was taken before the young woman, who immediately identified him, and was then carried into the woods. His captors were about to lynch him when mounted police arrived and wrested him from the crowd, not, however, before the negro had been badly beaten. The negro was taken to the jail and almost immediately the storming of the jail began. Sheriff Nichols swore in a number of deputies and the militia was ordered out. The mob tried to gain ingress by means of step ladders, but that, too, was ineffectual. Sunday and Sunday night passed off quietly with nothing in the way of a disturbance.

### N. C. & St. L. Detective Killed.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Special.—T. J. McElhenny, special detective for the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, was shot and killed early Sunday while on duty in the yards of the railroad company at Cravens, two miles from the union station. W. S. Smith, who was until recently employed as a detective for the road, is in jail charged with the crime. Bloodhounds were put on the trail and tracked Smith to his home. The men, it is said, had been on bad terms for some time. McElhenny leaves a wife and seven children.

### Quiet in the Near East.

London, By Cable.—Belgrade, the storm center in the present Balkan situation, has quieted down. After a long secret session, the National Assembly has taken no definite action with regard to making war upon Austria-Hungary. The city itself has quieted down, the people apparently realizing that war would mean the destruction of Servian nationality.

### Missionary Convention Holds Big Mass Meeting.

New Orleans, Special.—At a mass meeting in the Athenaeum Cephas Shelbourne, of Dallas, Tex., preached to a great audience attending the international missionary convention of the churches of Christ. Mr. Shelbourne took as his theme the fact that an inscription was written on the cross of Christ in three languages and developed from this incident an argument showing how modern churches of all creeds are pushing aside denominational barriers in favor of more intimate relations with each other.

## IS HE LEPROUS OR NOT?

Early Declares He is Being  
Held Without Just Cause

HIS WIFE MAY STAY WITH HIM

Former North Carolina Man, in Spite  
of the Fact That the District of  
Columbia Health People Are Abso-  
lutely Certain as to Their Diagno-  
sis, Declares He Is Not Afflicted  
With Leprosy and Refuses to Al-  
low Injections of Filtrate into His  
Body.

Washington, D. C., Special.—John R. Early, formerly of Lynn, N. C., who has been pronounced a leper, and on this account has been kept isolated in a tent under the guard of the health authorities of the District of Columbia, declares that he does not now and never has admitted that he is afflicted with leprosy. He took a stiff, decided stand against the idea of his having leprosy Friday when the physicians who have charge of his treatment proposed to inject what is known as the Nasta treatment, being a series of injections of a filtrate of leprosy into his body. He said that he did not have leprosy and that the injection might give it to him.

Dr. W. C. Fowler, of the District health department, claims, on the other hand, that he and the other physicians who have examined Early are "absolutely certain" that Early has leprosy. Says he:

"If Early is not suffering from leprosy, no man ever had that disease. There is no doubt in the world about his having leprosy, and we infer from the fact that he has remained silent throughout the past month that he is convinced. We appreciate, as much as Early or any one else, what a serious thing it would be to isolate a man unless we were absolutely certain he was afflicted with leprosy."

Early insists that there is a mistake and expresses a desire and an intention, if it shall be allowed, of having himself examined by other physicians. Dr. Fowler says further:

"The health office does not deny Early the right to have himself examined by any doctor, scientist, pathologist, or medical man he may see fit to employ. He was pronounced a leper by a doctor who has seen hundreds of cases. Besides this, the appearance of his face and body, the swellings so characteristic of leprosy, and the way he tells attending doctors how he feels prove beyond any shadow of a doubt that he is a leper and should be isolated for the common good."

Since it has been decided that the State of North Carolina cannot be required by law to take care of Early, and since he has been granted a pension by the Pension Bureau, careful consideration has been given to the question as to what shall be done with him. He is still in his tent over on the banks of the Potomac river, near the smallpox hospital, in what has been termed by some an exceedingly unhealthy locality, though there is another opinion about the healthfulness of the place. His wife has rented a cottage nearby, and she visits him every day, spending several hours talking with him. Guards are stationed there to see that she does not come into personal contact with him, and she is kept under watch, and will be. So long as she does not touch him, the authorities say there is not the slightest danger of contagion through her.

The health officials have a plan for erecting a cottage for Early and his family, maintaining a guard at the home day and night. It may even be that Mrs. Early will be permitted to live with her husband in the same room, provided she agrees to isolate herself for the rest of her life. But the details of the plan have not been completed yet. The health officials realize the great difficulty of keeping husband and wife apart when they are determined upon uniting. It is about as difficult a task as making husband and wife live with each other when they do not want to. But they are turning their minds to the solution of the problem, however difficult. Early meantime continue to read his Bible and to philosophize, as has been his wont since his first segregation.—Zach McGee in Charlotte Observer.

### Fishing Schooner Destroyed by Fire.

Pensacola, Fla., Special.—The fishing schooner Ida, owned in this city, was destroyed by fire in the Gulf when gasoline, which had escaped from the tank, ignited, causing an explosion. The vessel was an auxiliary yacht of large size. The boat was about twenty miles at sea and the crew took to the small boats. They were picked up and brought into port later. Ten thousand pounds of mackerel which composed the cargo were destroyed.

## TO HEAR COMPLAINT

Interstate Commerce Commis-  
sion Ready For N. C. Case

A STRONG ARRAY OF COUNSEL

On October 22d the Interstate Com-  
merce Commission Will Hear the  
Freight Rate Discrimination Case.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—The Corporation Commission is informed that October 22d is fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission as the date of the hearing of what is known as the freight rate discrimination case involving the Norfolk & Western, Louisville & Nashville and the Big Four Railway. They will be heard before the full commission. The State is not a party to this suit, which is brought by the Corporation Commission through the Governor took some action in regard to appointment of counsel. The following are the attorneys for the Corporation Commission: Tillet & Guthrie, of Charlotte; Manning & Foushee, of Durham; Justice & Broadhurst, of Greensboro, and Herbert E. Norris, of Raleigh. The attorneys for the railways are: Edward Baxter, for the Louisville & Nashville; J. L. Doran and L. H. Cooke, for the Norfolk & Western, and R. W. Moore, for all the roads. Besides these Davis & Davis and Douglas, Lecky & Thompson appear for the Virginia cities except Lynchburg, the latter not having gone into the fight. The other Virginia points are fighting any reduction in rate.

### Hearing Shippers' Appeal.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—An appeal from the decision of Judge Pardee, granting a supersedeas in the case of certain Georgia shippers against the Southern Railway and other lines, allowing the railroads to put into effect increased freight rates was argued before the United States Circuit Court here. When the increased rates went into effect the shippers secured an injunction from Judge Speer restraining the roads from advancing their rates. The railroads then carried the matter before Judge Pardee, who granted a supersedeas, setting aside the injunction granted by Judge Speer. Counsel for the shippers argued that when Judge Pardee granted the supersedeas he was out of his jurisdiction, being at the time in Asheville, N. C. No decision was rendered.

### Will Challenge Grand Jury.

New York, Special.—John F. McIntyre, attorney for Captain Peter C. Hains, Jr., and his brother, T. Jenkins Hains, the former held for the murder of William E. Annis, and the latter as an accessory to it, has served notice on District Attorney Darrin of Queens county that he would challenge the array of the grand jury empaneled to pass on the cases of his clients.

### Killed in Family Quarrel.

Philadelphia, Pa., Special.—J. Clayton Erb, captain and regimental quartermaster of the Third Regiment, National Guard, of Pennsylvania, was shot and killed at his summer home near Village Green, Delaware county, Tuesday night. His sister-in-law, Mrs. Catherine Beisel, is under arrest in the Media jail, charged with the murder. The woman admits that she did the shooting during a family quarrel.

### Russian Robbers Murder Twelve.

Tiraspol, Russia, By Cable.—Robbers have committed a revolting crime in the neighboring village of Slobodze. They entered the house of a Jewish family named Cohen and killed twelve persons in their efforts to get away with the small amount of loot. The murderers were arrested.

### Quarantine Against Havana Raised.

Washington, Special.—Recent reports having failed to indicate the presence of yellow fever in Havana, Cuba, the public health and marine hospital service removed the quarantine which was established against that city a few weeks ago. The quarantine against the province of Santiago still remains intact.

### President Castro Seriously Ill.

Willemstad, By Cable.—It is reported here from Venezuela that President Castro is seriously ill and that the government of Venezuela probably soon will have to be turned over to the vice president of that republic. The illness of President Castro was confirmed later in the day by passengers from Caracas, who declared him to be suffering from an affection of the liver and kidneys. His physicians have not been able to agree whether to perform an operation or not.

## LAKES TO GULF PLAN

A Great Inland Transportation  
Scheme Projected

JUDGE TAFT SPEAKS ON PLAN

Officers of the Lakes to the Gulf  
Deep Waterway Association, Which  
Met in Third Annual Session Wed-  
nesday in Chicago, Believe That  
Some Day There Will Be a Deep  
Channel From Lake Michigan to  
the Gulf of Mexico.

Chicago, Special.—A picture of days when stately ships shall carry the rich products of the central States from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico through a deep waterway, returning with products of no less value, was conjured up before the delegates and visitors to the third annual convention of the Lakes to the Gulf Deep Waterway Association by able speakers headed by William H. Taft. The day's utterances were authoritative for they came from Secretary Saunders, of the association; President Kavanaugh, head of the organization; Governor Charles S. Deneen, of Illinois, who spoke of the first link of the great waterway, the Chicago drainage canal and William H. Taft, who had the general supervision in Washington of the building of the Panama canal until he resigned to become the presidential nominee of the Republican party.

The need of such a waterway was insisted upon by every speaker. The question of transportation, it was declared, is one of the most serious questions with which this country has to deal. Mr. Taft's insistence that the deep waterway and the conservation of the national resources were related subjects, which called for immediate action, elicited great applause. His statement that the waterway was not a project, but a policy, found a ready response in cheers of his auditors.

"We find," said Mr. Taft, "that during the ten years ending with the internal commerce of our country increased 113 per cent, while transportation facilities during the same time increased only 20 per cent. It has been pointed out that this deficiency by the construction of additional railroads and necessary terminals would require a capital investment of \$5,500,000,000 and this construction when completed would make no provision for the further increase of our commerce. The only solution of this problem, the speaker found in deep waterways."

The convention opened at 10 o'clock with a prayer by Bishop Samuel Fallows, of Chicago. William K. Kavanaugh, president of the association, then delivered his annual address and William F. Saunders, secretary, read his report.

### CROP CONDITIONS.

Report of the Agricultural Department Showing the Condition of Crops October 1st.

Washington, Special.—The corn crop condition on October 1st was 77.8 per cent, spring wheat quality 83.1 per cent, total production of spring wheat was indicated as 233,090,000 bushels, the yield per acre averaging 13.2 bushels, combined production spring and winter wheat indicated as about 559,030,000 bushels of 89.4 per cent. quality and the oat crop quality was 51.3 per cent, the production being 789,161,000 bushels with yield per acre averaging 24.9 bushels according to the Department of Agriculture crop report issued Wednesday.

The corn condition is against a ten-year average on October 1st of 79.7. The average yield of spring wheat is against a six-year average of 85.9. The final estimate of average yield of oats per acre is against a ten-year average of 29.8 and quality 86.1 for ten years.

The decline in condition of corn during September was about two per cent, as compared with an average decline the past ten years of 1.6 per cent. In Southern corn States the condition on October 1st and ten-year average, respectively, of corn follows:

Texas 83 and 73; Georgia 84 and 82; Kentucky 75 and 83; Tennessee 82 and 80; Alabama 83 and 80; North Carolina 82 and 82; Arkansas 79 and 77; Mississippi 81 and 76.

### Fire Destroys the Southern Pacific Round House.

Beaumont, Tex., Special.—Fire late Wednesday destroyed the Southern Pacific round house and master mechanic's office with a loss to the company of about \$200,000. Nine engines which were in the round house were consumed together with three freight cars. "Judge" Crofts, a colored porter, was so badly burned that he will die. Several other railroad employees were burned in trying to save property, but none fatally. The fire was caused by the explosion of a tank of oil.